

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 1, 3-6, 9-16 and 18-39 are the claims that have been examined in the application. Claims 14, 16, 18-21, 24-27 and 30-38 are allowable. Claims 1, 3-6, 9-13 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Katchi et al, US Patent 5,821,836 (cited by applicant). Claims 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katchi et al., US Patent 5,821,836 (cited by applicant) in view of Boujet, US Patent 4,320,367. Claims 29 and 39 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, Applicants are hereby canceling claims 1, 3-6, 9-13, 15, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 39 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1, 3-6, 9-13 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Katchi et al, US Patent 5,821,836 (cited by applicant).

Claims 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katchi et al., US Patent 5,821,836 (cited by applicant) in view of Boujet, US Patent 4,320,367.

Applicants hereby cancel claims 1, 3-6, 9-13, 22, 23 and 28, rendering the prior art rejections moot. Withdrawal of the rejections is hereby respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14, 16, 18-21, 24-27 and 30-38 are allowable.

Claims 29 and 39 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants hereby cancel claims 29 and 39.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 14, 16, 18-21, 24-27 and 30-38 are allowable. Thus, because claims 14, 16, 18-21, 24-27 and 30-38 are the only remaining claims in the Application, Applicants submit the Application is in condition for immediate allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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